

## Statehouse Restoration Fact Sheet

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### Restoration and Expansion Of the Idaho State Capitol

The **58th Idaho Legislature** in March restated its support to preserve Idaho's Statehouse and provide additional space for future generations of Idahoans to come through passage of [House Concurrent Resolution 47](#).

The legislation also authorizes construction of two-story, underground additions to the east and west sides of the Statehouse, including modern high speed elevators.

The [Idaho Capitol Commission](#), the [Department of Administration](#) and the **Idaho State Building Authority** are developing a design and construction schedule for restoration to begin following the 2007 Legislative Session.

Completion is anticipated prior to the 2010 session. The 2008 and 2009 sessions will be held in the former Ada County Courthouse acquired by the State and adjacent to the Capitol. Total cost for both projects is estimated at **\$113.5 million**, which will be paid for by extra cigarette taxes the Idaho Legislature made permanent in the 2005 session.

### Statehouse History and Progress

The central portion of the [Idaho Capitol](#) was first constructed beginning in 1905 and was completed seven years later in 1912. Wing additions were constructed beginning in 1919 and completed a year later in 1920.

In 1999, the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$120,000 for completion of a [Master Plan](#) for the Capitol restoration. At that time, the cost was estimated at \$64 million. After the design work was completed, the project was placed on hold in early 2002 due to the economic downturn and budget shortfalls.

Some work was done to preserve the exterior of the structure. In 2000, **\$1.5 million** was appropriated from the Permanent Building Fund (PBF) to repair exterior masonry and to replace the east and west stairs (Phase 1).

In 2004, the Legislature authorized nearly **\$3 million** from the PBF to continue (Phase II) of the exterior work which included repairs at the dome level and drainage areas, eagle restoration and skylight replacements. Roof replacement is set for spring of 2006.

- Idaho House passes **HCR47** on March 8, 2006 (40-28); Idaho Senate passes legislation March 15, (33-2).

- Underground wings will provide a combined, **100,000 square feet** of additional office and hearing room space.

- Idaho Capitol Building **current space**:  
193,000 sq. feet (gross space)  
111,632 sq. feet (useable space)

- Design considerations **meet national historic guidelines**; retain recently restored east and west stairs/grand entries, and overall visual impact of Idaho's Statehouse.

- A **Legislative Restoration Task Force** studied various space/addition proposals, including a tour to the [Texas State Capitol](#) where underground facilities were constructed.

- Construction and excavation is set to begin in **spring of 2007**, following the 2007 Legislative Session.

- 30-month construction timeline** calls for restoration and completion of underground wings in time for the 2010 Session.

- Idaho is **third fastest growing state** in the nation. The Capitol Building, completed in 1920, does not allow for reconfiguration or expansion of hearing rooms. Citizens often stand in line in adjacent corridors and hallways to attend hearings and interact with their government.

## Fast Facts

## About the Idaho Capitol Building ...

When completed in 1920, the Idaho Capitol – indoor plumbing and all – cost \$2,098,455.

Another \$130,833 was spent on furnishings.

**Rendering/View of Idaho Capitol  
Dome from Garden Level,  
Underground Wing**

**3DI (International)  
Lemley & Associates**

Lemley and Associates ( L&A), headed by Channel Tunnel builder [Jack Lemley](#) and headquartered in Boise, Idaho, provide a wide range services to public and private engineering and construction clients worldwide. Other projects include the London Underground Connect Project; Athens Metro System; and Boston's Central Artery Tunnel.

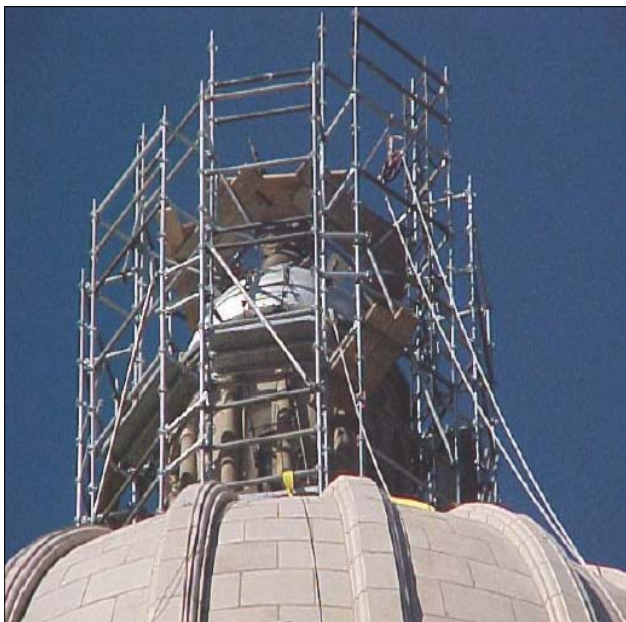


### Additional Resources:

<http://www.capitolcommission.idaho.gov>

<http://www.adm.idaho.gov>

<http://www.idahohistory.net>



**Idaho Capitol Dome, Upper Lantern  
Masonry, Terra Cotta repair work was  
completed in 2005.** (CSHQA)



**Drainage Repair around Capitol Building  
Perimeter, was completed in 2004.** (CSHQA)